

**MEDIA RELEASE**



**Attention: News Director  
For Immediate Release  
October 19, 2006**

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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Western District of Kentucky**

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**NORTONVILLE MAN INDICTED FOR ESCAPE PLEADS GUILTY**

David L. Huber, United States Attorney for the Western District of Kentucky, announced today that **JOSEPH DAVID HOPKINS**, age 59, of 51 West Pine Street, Nortonville, Kentucky, in Hopkins County, entered a plea of guilty to the crime of escape.

**Hopkins** was indicted on June 7, 2006. The indictment charged that on December 22, 2005, he escaped from a facility where he was being held in custody by direction of the Attorney General of the United States by virtue of having been convicted of a federal offense. **Hopkins** had been sentenced in January, 2001, to 7 years in prison, after having been convicted of interstate domestic violence, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2261(a)(2). He had been transferred by the federal Bureau of Prisons to the Warren County Jail, as he neared completion of his sentence, to participate in a half-way house program. He had been given a furlough to seek employment, but was under an order to return to the facility at the end of the day. He failed to return. He was later arrested by officers of the Hopkins County Sheriff's Office, after they received information that he was hiding in the Nortonville area.

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The maximum potential penalties are five years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of three years.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Larry Fentress, and it was investigated by the Hopkins County Sheriff's Office and the United States Marshal's Service.

**Hopkins** was remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal. Sentencing is scheduled for February 6, 2007, at 11:30 a.m., before United States District Judge Thomas B. Russell in Bowling Green, Kentucky.

**- END -**

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